



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

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TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Monday, October 3, 2011, 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

*All meetings are held in the City Hall Annex 13th floor
Conference room at 25 West 4th Street in Saint Paul*

1. Update on TIGER III applications – 5 min
Allen Lovejoy, Public Works
2. Presentation & discussion on the Arterial Transitways Corridors Study – 1 hour
Charles Carlson, Metro Transit
3. 2012 Committee Meeting day/time – 5 min
Christina Morrison, PED

ATCS Open Houses

- October 11, 6pm – 8:00pm at Metro State
- October 12, 6pm – 8:00pm at the Midtown Exchange (Minneapolis)
- October 13, 11am – 1:00pm at the Minneapolis Central Library

Upcoming Transportation Committee Meetings

- October 17 – Griggs Bikeway
- November 14
- December 5
- December 19

Meetings are open to the public. The Chair may allow five minutes for public comment (from non-committee members) at the beginning of each agenda as needed. Additional time may be allocated for comments or further discussion at the discretion of the Chair. Meetings will be cancelled if there is not a quorum expected, or if there are no agenda items.

Transportation Committee Staff Report

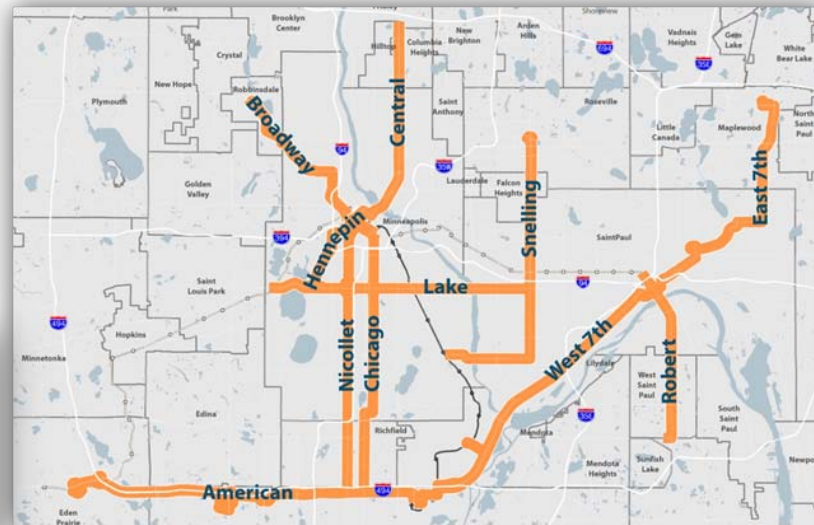
Committee date: 10/3/11

Project Name	Arterial Transitway Corridors Study
Geographic Scope	In St. Paul: Snelling/Ford Parkway, E. and W. 7 th Streets, Robert Street, and Marshall Avenue from the river to Snelling Avenue/Spruce Tree
Ward(s)	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
District Council(s)	2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 12, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17
Project Description	The ATCS focuses on developing the concept of arterial bus rapid transit (BRT). BRT involves a combination of service and facility improvements along existing high ridership local bus corridors in urban areas. Bus-rapid transit provides improved speed, frequency, and reliability by upgrading bus and station quality. Eleven arterial corridors are included: West Broadway Avenue, Central Avenue, Snelling Avenue, Robert Street, East Seventh Street, West Seventh Street, Nicollet Avenue, Chicago Avenue, American Boulevard, Hennepin Avenue, and Lake Street.
Project Contact	Charles Carlson
Contact email/phone	charles.carlson@metc.state.mn.us , (612) 349-7639
Lead Agency/Department	Metro Transit, Service Development
Purpose of Project/Plan	Develop service and facilities plan to improve transit speed, service reliability, customer experience, and connections between major destinations on eleven high frequency local bus corridors.
Planning References	Comp Plan Policy T2.6, T2.9, T4.1
Project stage	Planning
General Timeline	Evaluate corridor performance in Fall 2011, Prioritize and Rank Nov 2011 to Feb 2012, Post-study development and implementation 2012 and later.
District Council position (if applicable)	NA
Level of Committee Involvement	Inform, gather input
Previous Committee action	None
Level of Public Involvement	Inform, gather input
Public Hearing	No- Public informational meetings scheduled October 11, 12, 13 October 11 meeting Metropolitan State University 6pm-8pm
Public Hearing Location	NA
Primary Funding Source(s)	Metropolitan Council Unified Planning Work Program Corridor Study
Cost	Study by Metropolitan Council, \$324,000 cost

Staff recommendation	NA - briefing only
Action item requested of the Committee	No action requested



Arterial Transitway Corridors Study St. Paul Transportation Committee



October 3, 2011



Purpose of Study

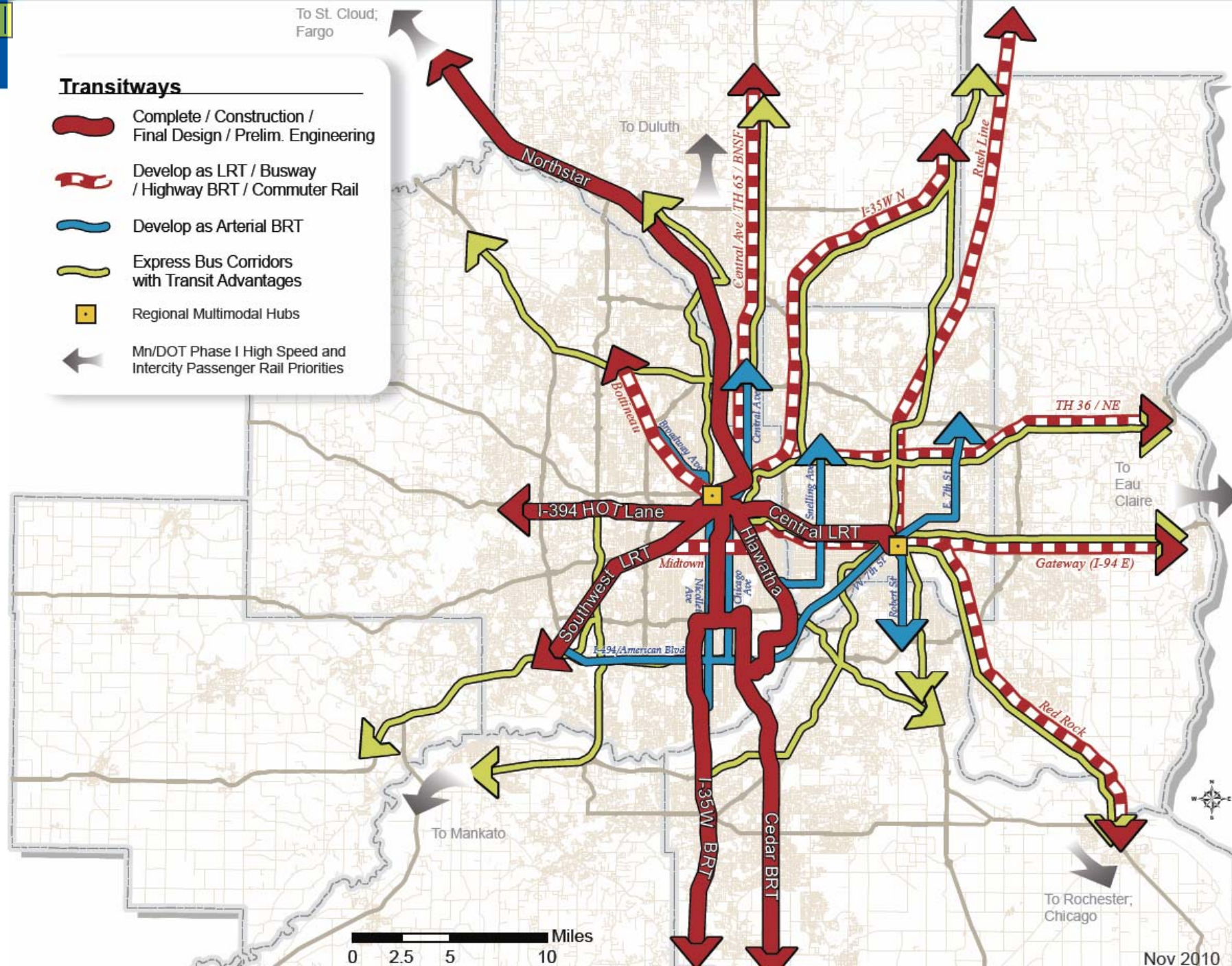
- Study eleven urban corridors in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and surrounding communities
- Develop service and facilities plan to improve
 - Transit Speed
 - Service Reliability
 - Customer Experience
 - Connections Between Major Destinations



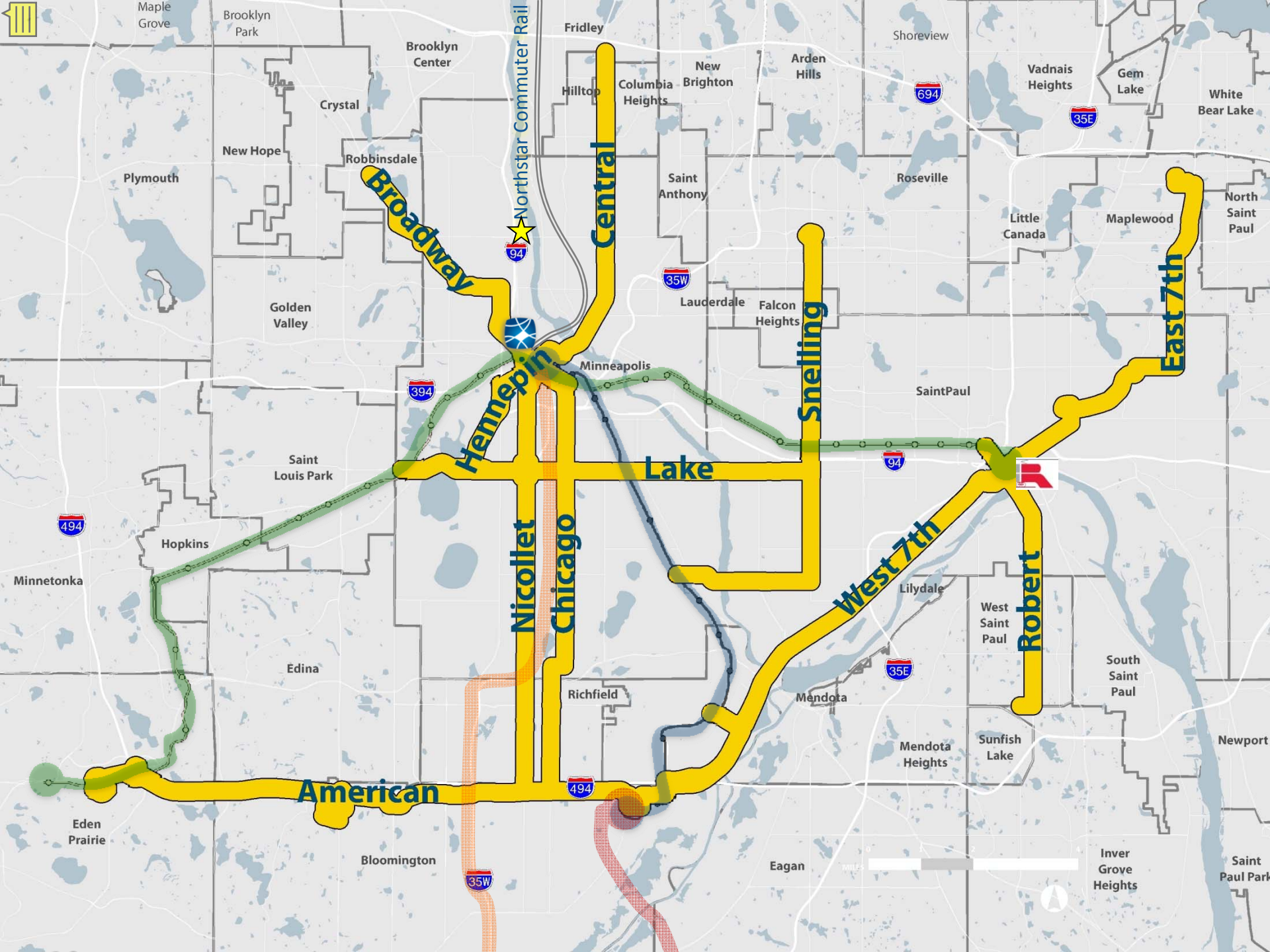
To St. Cloud;
Fargo

Transitways

- Complete / Construction / Final Design / Prelim. Engineering
- Develop as LRT / Busway / Highway BRT / Commuter Rail
- Develop as Arterial BRT
- Express Bus Corridors with Transit Advantages
- Regional Multimodal Hubs
- Mn/DOT Phase I High Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail Priorities

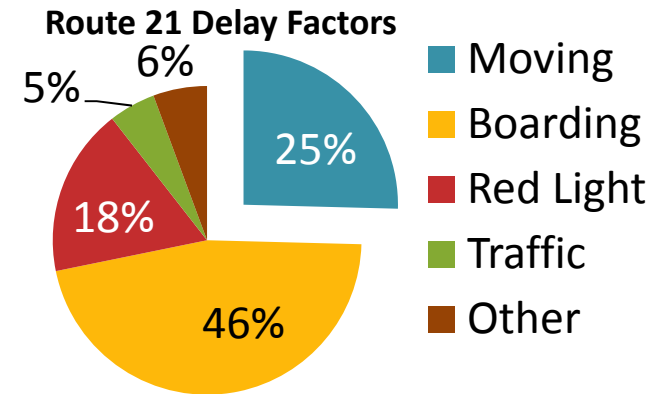
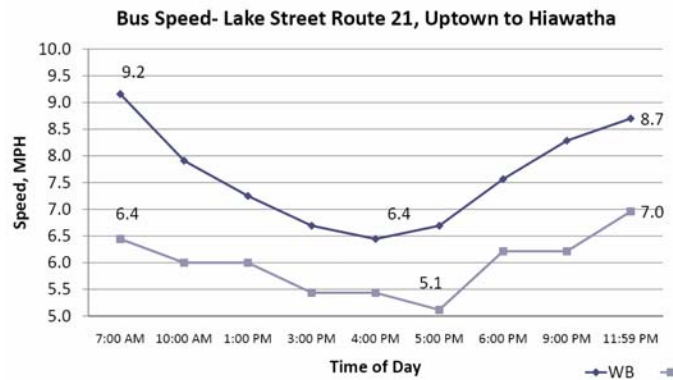


Nov 2010





Purpose and Need Elements on Arterial Corridors

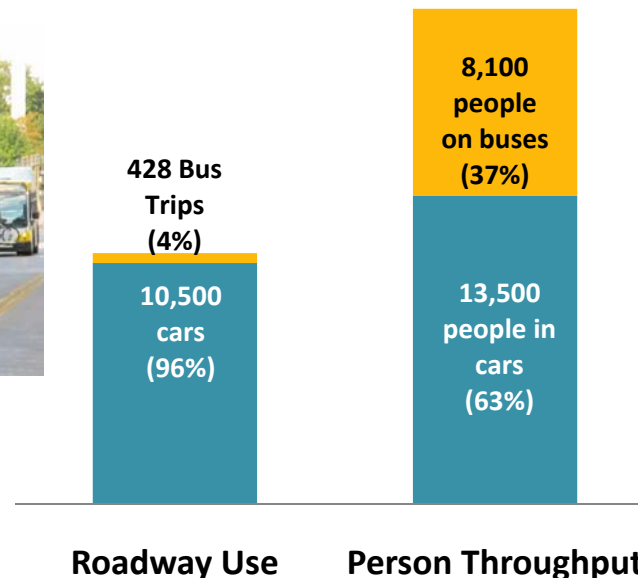


1. Speed and reliability improvements are required to decrease costs and improve ridership



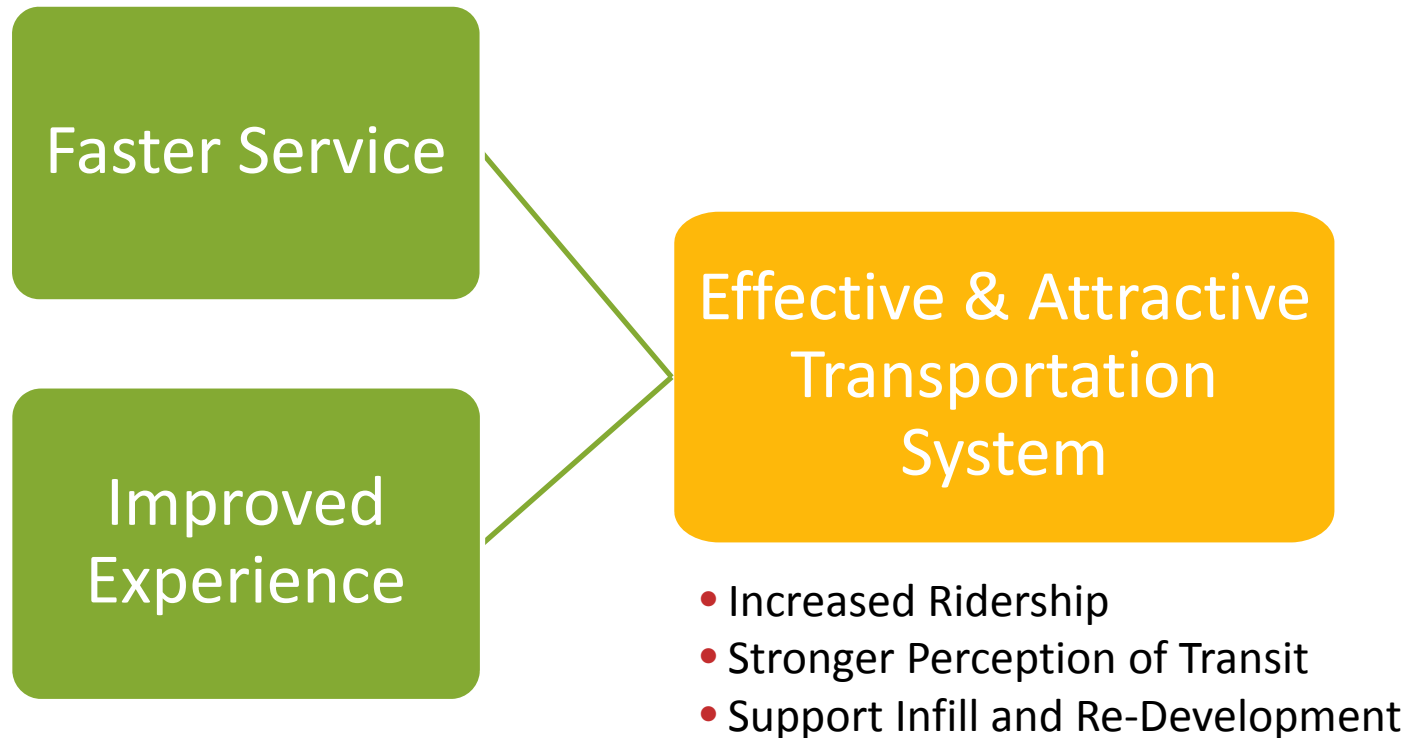


2. Corridor transit services are a critical element of the region's transportation system





Study Goals:





Rapid Bus Improvements

- System Consistency

- Station Design
- Fare Collection
- Vehicle Branding
- System Identity



... to provide a consistent system identity & experience

- Corridor/Stop Level

- Station Size
- Runningway
- Traffic Signals/Systems
- Service Levels



... to respond to local conditions and demand



How does Rapid Bus achieve faster service?



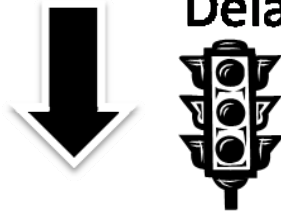
Faster Service

Less Waiting



- Improved frequency
- Better on-time performance

Signal & Traffic Delay



- Signal priority
- Far-side stops
- Curb Extensions

Boarding Delay



- Pre-pay boarding
- All-door boarding
- Raised curbs

Fewer Stops



- 2-3 stations per mile
- Serve activity centers



How does Rapid Bus achieve an improved experience?



Improved Experience

Service Reliability



- Better on-time performance

Customer Information



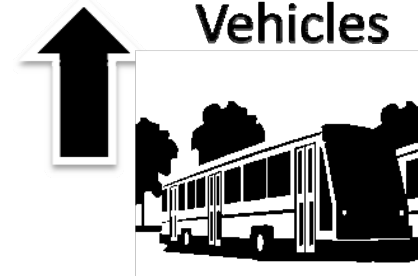
- Real time signs
- Schedule info and wayfinding signs
- On bus information
- Branding

Transitway Stations



- Enhanced maintenance
- Security features & station-level lighting
- Heated shelters
- Curb extensions
- Ticket Vending Machines
- Branding

Specialized Vehicles



- Dedicated fleet
- Low floor buses
- Clean emissions
- Unique look



Station Pylon Study Concept



Station Marker

Station Signage

Schedule &
Wayfinding Info

Light/Heat

Real Time Sign

Ticket Vending

Additional features in concept stations:

- Security Cameras
- Bike Parking Racks
- Trash Receptacles
- Emergency Call Button
- Seating/Lean wall

Study Massing Concept Only: Design to be completed in future engineering stage

Medium Station Concept Design



Study Massing Concept Only: Design to be completed in future engineering stage



2 FOR 1 \$3.25
CROSSANOVICH



Carbon's Pizzeria
SUN - 3pm-9pm
MON - 11am-9pm
TUES - THURS. 11am-10pm
FRI. & SAT. 11am-11pm

680
E. 7TH



2 FOR 1 1/2
CROSSBREADS



Carbon's
Pizzeria
SUN - 3pm-9pm
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TUES - THURS. 11am-10pm
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680
E. 7TH

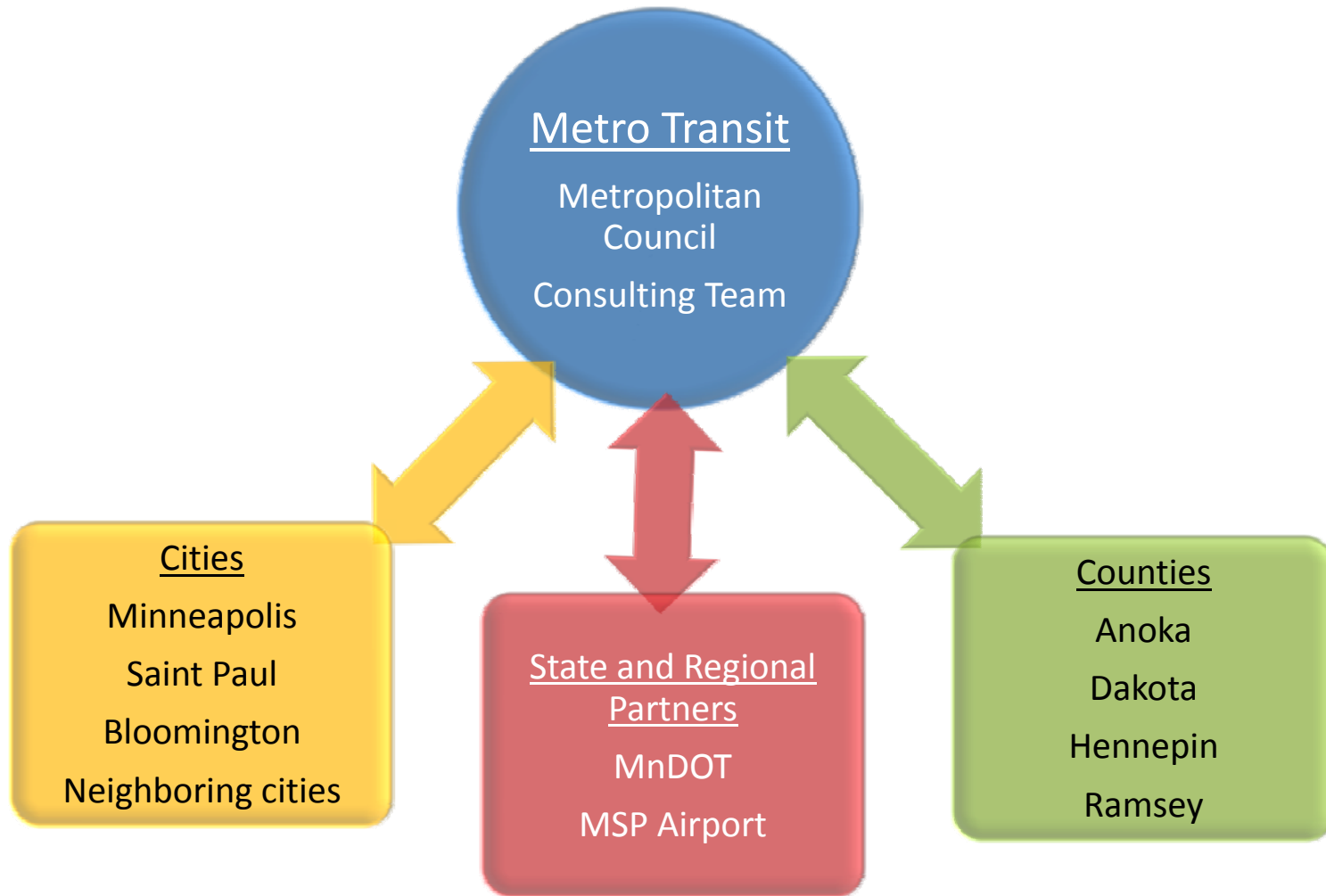
Rapid Bus Experiences in Other Regions

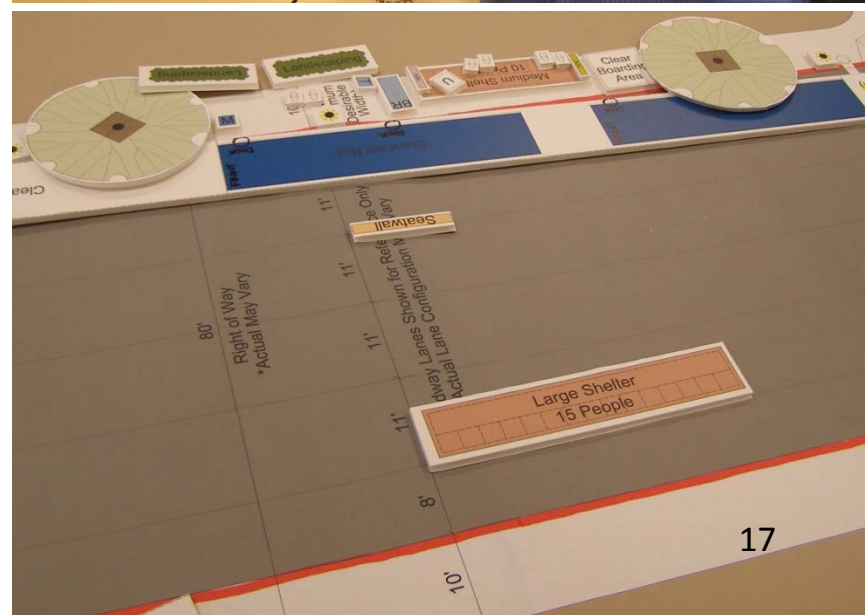
Component	Typical Results
Travel Time	15 – 25+% faster travel
Ridership	20 – 40+% increase
Capital Costs	\$1 – \$3 million/mile





Study Team and Project Partners







Upcoming Public Meetings and Presentations

- Public meetings hosted by study team:
 - October 11, 6pm – 8:00pm - Metro State University (St. Paul)
 - October 12, 6pm – 8:00pm- Midtown Exchange (South Minneapolis)
 - October 13, 11am – 1:00pm- Central Library (Downtown Minneapolis)
- Second round of meetings with results and prioritization in January 2012
- Participation in meetings by others:
 - Bottineau Transitway- October-November 2011?



Next Steps in Arterial Transitway Corridors Study

- Evaluate Performance (Fall 2011)
 - Costs, ridership and mobility benefits
 - Develop and apply evaluation criteria
- Prioritize and Rank (Nov 2011 – Feb 2012)
 - Identify best-fit corridors for Rapid Bus improvements
 - Share draft results and then Complete ATCS study
- Post-Study Development and Implementation (2012)
 - Refine and incorporate concept in other upcoming studies
 - Pursue funding and implementation in best-fit corridors



Integration with other studies:

- Four+ corridors slated for more study and Alternatives Analysis
 - Nicollet/Central AA (Minneapolis)
 - Midtown AA (Metro Transit)
 - Robert Street AA (Dakota County)
 - Potential St. Paul Streetcar Study
- ATCS/Rapid Bus Concept will inform these studies:
 - Existing Conditions Information
 - Enhanced bus alternative concept



EB Lake Street at Nicollet Avenue- 1,000 boardings/day



Next Steps Toward Rapid Bus Implementation

Implementation Step	Potential Timeline
Complete Arterial Transitway Corridors Study	February 2012
Select first corridor(s) for implementation	Early 2012
Advanced planning, design, and construction of first Rapid Bus corridor(s)	2012 – 2014
Begin operations of first corridor(s)	Late 2014
Implement service on additional corridor(s)	2015 – 2030

Arterial Transitway Corridors Study



Charles Carlson, AICP

Manager of Transitway Projects

Metro Transit Service Development

(612) 349-7639